

New-York Daily Tribune
THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 1864.
To Correspondents.
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NEWS OF THE DAY.

THE WAR.

The Chicago Evening Journal of April 20 publishes extracts from private letters from members of the Chicago Mercantile Battery, dated April 12, to the effect that on the day after the recent disaster to the 13th Army Corps, Gen. A. J. Smith, with the 19th Army Corps, engaged the enemy and defeated them, capturing 2,000 prisoners and 20 cannon. A dispatch was received at the Navy Department at noon yesterday from Capt. Pennock, saying: "I have received private letters from Red River, one dated Grand Ecore, La., April 10, and one dated Alexandria, April 12, stating that the army under Gen. Banks met with reverses on the 8th inst., near Mansfield. Our army fell back, and on the next day the Rebels attacked them, and were handsomely whipped. The loss is heavy on both sides. The Admiral (Porter), when last heard from, was about forty miles above Grand Ecore. The river was low."

A dispatch to The Cincinnati Commercial from Cattleburg, Ky., dated the 19th inst., says: Capt. Patrick has arrived here with over 100 prisoners captured at the battles of Paintwater and Half Mountain, on the Licking River. Dodge's Rebel brigade, under Col. Gillespie's force at Paintwater on Tuesday, but was repulsed. Gillespie pursued the retreating Rebels with 500 men of the 14th and 39th Kentucky and surprised them on the 14th inst. in camp at Half Mountain, capturing 70 prisoners, 200 horses, 400 saddles, 300 stand of small-arms, and all their camp equipment. Eighty-five Rebels were killed and wounded. Our loss was one killed and four wounded. Col. Clay is one of the Rebel prisoners.

LEGISLATURE.

SENATE, April 20.—Bills were reported to continue in office the New-York Tax Commissioners; to close part of Richards street, Brooklyn; the Queens County Oryster bill; relative to the Hunter's Point Railroad; the General Appropriation bill; the bill providing for the Enrolling Officers of 1862. Bills were passed amending the Charter of Brooklyn; amending the Metropolitan Police law; for the collection of unpaid taxes in Richmond County; amending the Brooklyn Fire act; relative to the Brooklyn, Bath, and Coney Island Railroad Company; legalizing the acts of the New-York Supervisors in the matter of bounties and riot damages; for the better protection of seamen in the port of New-York. Rescess.

ASSEMBLY.—Bills were reported favorably relative to Common Schools in New-York; relative to Life and Health Insurance Companies; relative to the Atlantic Savings Bank; relative to the Citizens' Savings Bank of New-York; relative to the Land Drainage Company; authorizing the City of Brooklyn to issue bonds; relative to the New-York District Courts; to alter the map of New-York. Adverse reports were made and agreed to on the bills relative to the Justice Courts in Brooklyn and New-York; relative to the New-York Annuity Savings Bank; relative to the New-York Freeholders' and Odd Fellows' Savings Bank; for a Public Stock Exchange. Bills were passed authorizing the State Banks to organize as National Banks; for a Free Academy in Brooklyn; the new Militia bill; to incorporate the East India Telegraph Company. The New-York City and County Tax Levies were considered in Committee of the Whole, when progress was reported, and the levies made the special order for to-morrow morning. A bill was passed for the better protection of seamen in the port of New-York. Rescess.

NEWS FROM EUROPE.

By the arrival of the Australasian at this port we have dates from Europe to the 10th inst., three days later than those previously received. The movements of Gen. Garibaldi continue to absorb public attention. It was asserted that Lord Palmerston would entertain Garibaldi at his town residence. The proposal to confer the freedom of the City of London on Garibaldi has been freed in the Court of Common Council, with only two dissentients, Mr. Norris, M. P., having withdrawn his amendment. Mazzini, on Wednesday, April 6, paid the General a visit, and the poet Laureate spent some time in conversing with the distinguished exile. The General visited Newport on Thursday, April 7, and had an enthusiastic welcome. At the Town Hall an address was presented to him, and afterward he was entertained at a banquet.

The leading points of the financial statement made by Mr. Gladstone in the House of Commons may be summed up in a very few words. The expenditure for 1863 was estimated at \$68,283,000, but the actual outlay fell below that amount by about a million and a quarter. The revenue for the same year produced \$47,308,000, so that after deducting a sum of \$300,000 taken on account of fortifications, Mr. Gladstone can boast a net surplus on the year of \$22,352,000. Coming to the year 1864-5, the right hon. gentleman estimated the expenditure at \$66,850,000—a reduction of \$1,333,000 on that of the last twelve months. This places him in possession of a surplus of over two millions and a half, which he disposes of by a reduction of the sugar duties; by taking 1d. off the income tax; by lowering the duty on fire insurances on stock in trade to 15.6d. per cent, and several other remissions of minor importance. He declines to touch the malt tax, and insurances on buildings and furniture he proposes to charge at the existing rate.

The note in which the French Government announced its readiness to take part in a Conference respecting Danish affairs, says that "the cause of the struggle is evidently the rivalry of the populations which compose the Danish monarchy," and asks, "What would be more natural, in default of a course unanimously accepted, than to take as a basis the wish of the population?" La France believes that in consequence of the explanations contained in the note of M. Drouyn de Lhuys the British Cabinet is more inclined toward the views of the French Government.

The Monitor has at last an announcement on the subject of the Archduke Maximilian. It states that, according to advices from Miramar, the Archduke was to receive the Mexican deputation on Saturday, April 2, and that he was to leave for Mexico on Sunday. We presume this intelligence may be considered as decisive. The subscription for the new Mexican loan of 200,000,000 francs was to be opened in Paris, according to a telegram, upon the 15th or 16th of April. It will be issued simultaneously at London, Paris, Frankfurt, Brussels and Amsterdam.

GENERAL NEWS.

At the meeting of the Board of Education last evening, Samuel S. Randall was re-elected Superintendent for two years, without opposition. Mr. O'Donnell, withdrawing in his favor, Assistant Superintendent (Kid) was also re-elected. An attempt to place "Brown's Grammar, with Kiddle's Analysis," on the list of school books, was defeated on the ground that Mr. Kiddle's position would virtually secure to his publisher a monopoly, whether the book be good or bad. The contract for wood and coal, which excited so much debate at the last meeting, was unanimously awarded to Mr. J.

T. Barnard, the lowest bidder. Mr. John C. Graff, Principal of the school in Carmansville, having been removed by the Local Board of the Twelfth Ward, the Board declared the removal illegal and restored him. The Governor signed the Albany Bridge bill yesterday morning. It is understood that the Governor sent to the Senate yesterday the A. B. Parmelee of Franklin County, at present Canal Appraiser; for Canal Appraisers, Hiram Gardner of Lockport, late Canal Commissioner, in place of Mr. Parmelee; and Thomas B. Carroll, a reappointment.

Mary McMurray, residing at No. 262 West Sixteenth street, died last evening from the effects of a beating administered by her husband during the afternoon. He was arrested and held to await the action of the Coroner. Mrs. McM. was 24 years of age and a native of Ireland.

The President has approved the act authorizing the people of Nebraska to form a Constitution and State Government. It is therefore a law.

Gold closes at 167 3/4 at 4 p.m.; sold during the day at 167. The shipment of specie to-day was \$79,000. The Stocks upon the street were irregular, with a moderate business. At the Stock Exchange Government Securities were steady. At the Second Board Government Stocks were strong. Freight continue languid, and the market is more depressed than ever known. Money has not been reported as scarce by stock houses, and it may be quoted as the scarcest for strong borrowers. Upon non-dividend paying shares and speculative enterprises lenders do not look with favor, and exact high rates for accommodation.

The report of the proceedings in the charge of contempt made against the editor of THE TRIBUNE in the Court of Oyer and Terminer, by Judge Barnard, will be found on the sixth page of this morning's paper.

The House yesterday secured a quorum for its evening session by dint of counting in the vote of the Speaker! Subsequently a motion to reconsider an important vote of the day before was withdrawn on the objection that members who were interested in the question were absent. If they had not interest enough to be in their seats and attend to business, they certainly had no claim to have such a question, or any question, postponed for their convenience. Are we to take this as a specimen of the assiduity which the House intends to practice?

BANKS AND CURRENCY—THE STATES AND THE UNION.

The desperate assiduity wherewith the Copperhead faction everywhere puts itself forward as the champion of State Banks and Banking can hardly have escaped the notice of any intelligent reader. Let us elucidate it.

We sincerely open a journal of the Vallandigham-McClellan persuasion which has not its little fling at the effort of the Administration to "crush the State Banks." Analyze this expression—recur to the facts which are relied on to justify it—and you will find that it amounts simply to this: The policy of the Government tends to divest the State Banks of the privilege of furnishing the country with its circulating medium. And, thus reduced to its just proportions, we consider the charge substantially well founded. But we deny that any Banker or Bank, any more than a restaurant, cotton-factory or grist-mill, is "crushed" by divesting it of the privilege of circulating its promises as money and thus drawing interest on its debts. We favor no dog-in-the-manger policy, and deem it no objection to a practice or policy that it subverses the pecuniary interest of others. Believing the use of Paper Money in the main beneficent, we regard with favor its issue by State Banks, as having subserved a good end and expedited the development of our National Industry, the rapid increase of our National Wealth. Though our recent Currency system embodied some serious defects, and two or three glaring anomalies, we thought well of it, praised it, stood by it, throughout the score of years preceding the present National crisis.

But circumstances have suddenly and radically changed. A desperate, atrocious Rebellion has inaugurated the most gigantic Civil War that the world has ever seen, imposing on our Government an enormous and protracted Expenditure. Tax as vigorously as we may—and we should have taxed sooner and more heavily than we did—we must nevertheless borrow heavily, and keep borrowing, till the War shall be concluded and our vast armies disbanded.

In this emergency, the Republic needs the fullest use and enjoyment of its own credit. It needs that the constitutional assignment to Congress of the exclusive power "to coin money and regulate the value thereof," and "to borrow money on the credit of the United States," with the denial to the States of the power to "emit bills of credit," be made operative in its behalf. In other words—since somebody must enjoy and profit by the privilege of supplying the circulating Medium of the Country, and as the Government—that is, the Nation—absolutely, imperatively needs that every latent resource be made available in its behalf, it seems too clear for argument that this privilege should ensure to the benefit of the whole country rather than to the profit of certain favored individuals.

And this is the gist of the controversy now raging respecting National and State Banks. It would very much simplify the matter if there were no National Banks—or rather, if these issued no other notes than those of the Government—and this is what we should greatly prefer, if it were possible. But we desire to return to specie payment and perfect solvency at the earliest moment; and this is deemed incompatible with a currency of Greenbacks alone. That is to say: A circulating Medium of Paper, issued directly by the Government, cannot be kept steadily convertible yet unconverted into coin; while that issued by National Banks, but uniformly resting upon the credit and faith of the Government, can be. A Bank of Ten Millions capital, invested in interest-bearing Government Stocks, may keep afloat several millions of paper money, yet redeem with specie every dollar of its issues when presented, while the Government would fail in attempting to do so. The National Banks, therefore, are devised to achieve two important public ends: 1. To support and strengthen the Public Credit, by creating a large and constant business demand for our National Securities; and 2. To secure to the Government and People the largest possible share of the profit accruing from the circulation of Paper Money consistent with its ready and constant redemption. And these ends, we trust, will be achieved, though Avarice and Disloyalty should combine to defeat them.

As to State Taxation of National Banks, the

right of the Government to exempt them therefrom was long since settled by a decision of the Supreme Court; but its expediency is still an open question. We trust the friends of the National system will concede on this point so far as is not incompatible with the existence and success of that system. Let all the property of each National Bank but its National Securities be subject to the same rate of taxation with other like property; but the public faith is pledged to the public creditors against the taxation of these Securities; and this pledge must be made good.

For weary, trying, terrible years, the Government has been a large and eager borrower, as it must be for some months to come. It was not easy to divert such large sums as it needed from other investments into the all-absorbing Treasury. Every man, without distinction of party, has been urged to lend to the Government: very many have done so. One of the inducements held out to procure such investment was exemption from taxation save a modified Income Tax. Thousands who might easily have subscribed to the successive National Loans have utterly refused to do so, saying that the debt incurred for the prosecution of this War would never be paid. Partly from disloyalty, partly from distrust, they have buttoned up their pockets and turned a deaf ear to the appeals of the Republic for the means of paying and feeding its armies; and now these very men are foremost in demanding that the repudiation they predicted shall commence by a denial of the promised immunity from taxation.

We trust they will be disappointed and baffled, and that the Nation will maintain its pledged faith to every creditor, whether his bonds be deposited as the basis of National or State Banking, or used in any other way. To make its use a pretext for taxing that which by express compact is to be exempt from taxation is utterly unjustifiable. Here is a citizen worth \$100,000 who has been induced to invest half his fortune in the Public Debt. Having a house and farm worth \$25,000, he invests the residue of his property in a National Bank, whereof his \$50,000 in National Securities and \$25,000 expended in providing the necessary edifice, books, &c., form a part or all of the capital. His private estate is subject to State and local taxation; so are his banking-house and other business facilities; but his National Stocks are not, unless the Public Faith is to be broken. And if any think this favoritism, let them rush to subscribe to the National Loan now open, and reap their full share of the supposed advantage enjoyed by holders of the National Debt. There is room and welcome for all.

KENTUCKY.

The National Union Press (daily) made its appearance at Louisville on the 18th inst. It is a fair and spirited journal of the Unconditional Union stamp, filled with everything good, advertisements excepted. We find in it a call for a Union State Convention at Louisville on the 25th of May, to choose Delegates to the National Union Convention at Baltimore. It contains also the recent act of the Kentucky Legislature securing Kentuckians in the Union armies their Right of Suffrage; also, an address to those soldiers from the Union State Committee, showing why they ought to vote the Union ticket. On the main question, the Editor of The Union Press is thus explicit:

"We are a Nation, not a mere confederation of States. We once had such a confederation or league, and it proved a rope of sand. 'The Confederation,' in Webster's words, 'was in strictness a compact; the States, as States, were parties to it, and not the Federal Government.' But that was found insufficient and inadequate to the public exigencies. The people were not satisfied with it, and undertook to establish a better. They undertook to form a General Government, which should stand on a new basis, not a compact, but a league, not a compact between States, but a Constitution; a popular Government, founded in popular election, directly responsible to the people themselves, and divided into branches, with prescribed limits of powers and prescribed duties. They ordained such a Government, and gave it the name of a 'Constitution.' Thus, under the guiding providence of Almighty God, the people of the United States organized themselves into a nation. For high and noble ends was it called into being—to give to more perfect union, to establish justice, insure domestic tranquillity, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty."

"It has had a glorious career. It has exerted a most beneficent influence. The hearts of the people in all countries have turned to it instinctively. Its progress has been viewed with admiration and gratitude. Its continued life is felt by the people to be of infinite importance, not only to itself, but to the world. Rebellion against it is the worst of crimes, and a nation that turns to the dust the earthly hopes of the human race. 'This magnificent Rebellion against the sovereignty of the American people is the work of ambitious men, who have sought to destroy our Nationality for the sake of a few selfish interests. They have sought to destroy our Union for the sake of a few selfish interests. That Slavery is the real cause of the Rebellion, the cause of our troubles, we have no doubt; but practically it matters little whether it be regarded as cause or occasion. The conspirators in its interest and for its maintenance are the real enemies of the people, and have sought to rend the Republic asunder. In so doing it is a means for destroying the life of the Nation, they have conspired the Nation to destroy it. Slavery is dying; and it was the consummate sin, fully of its world, to perpetrate a crime which necessitated the most bloody of wars. The voice and conscience, indeed, of the civilized world, had condemned the Slave System; and Emancipationists all over the country earnestly desired, as Washington and his compatriots had done, its gradual extinction; but in spite of the voice of humanity and humane desire, it might have lived on indefinitely, but for the madness of its friends."

"It is dying; its death-throes may be fearful, but die it must. No power on earth can save it. It becomes a question to look at and govern themselves accordingly. That Slavery is dying is a fact; whether welcome or unwelcome, still a fact; and therefore, the sooner it dies, the better for all concerned. The transition time is the period of uncertainty, trial, discussion and loss. That time over, the institution felt and acknowledged to be dead, men, white and black, will adapt themselves to the new order of things; hope-inspired industry will revive; the laws which regulate the demand and supply of labor will assert their sway; and a brighter day will dawn upon the enfranchised nation."

THE RED RIVER BATTLES.

The news from Louisiana is considerably more cheerful to-day than yesterday, not because the report of disaster proves untrue, but because the defeat suffered on the 8th inst. was repaired by a victory on the 9th. The dispatches by way of Chicago and New-Orleans respectively, which seem contradictory, will, if read in the order of their dates, appear consistent.

Some part of the Red River expeditionary force had advanced on the 6th inst. as far as Pleasant Hill, about fifty miles from Shreveport, and twenty beyond Natchitoches. Gen. Banks's headquarters at that date. On the 6th and 7th there were inconsiderable skirmishes with the enemy. On the 8th, the cavalry found themselves in front of a heavy Rebel force, their advance came to a halt, and infantry was sent for. A brigade of the 3d Division, 13th Army Corps, went forward under Gen. Ransom, followed shortly by the remainder of the 3d and the whole of the 4th Division. Gen. Stone, Chief of Staff to Gen. Banks, seems to have accom-

panied this force and to have fought the battle. The account of the correspondent of The Chicago Journal, which is all we have at present, is very unfavorable to Gen. Stone, and seems in effect to charge the loss of the battle to his mismanagement. But the narrative is vague, and reads a little as if written under a prejudice against Gen. Stone. What is evident is that our forces were attacked with great vigor, beaten, and driven from the field with a loss of four guns, and an estimated loss of 2,000 in killed and wounded. It is stated that the 19th Army Corps came up in season to check the enemy till all our trains were got off, except that of the cavalry. As trains—excepting ammunition—have no business in the front of an advance which had been pushed five miles in support of engaged cavalry, it looks as if the troops of Gen. Banks had been driven that distance in retreat. There was a panic and a rout, and the loss was heavy in consequence.

But the next day the scene changes. The Rebels being bent on making the most of their victory, followed it by a general attack, and were beaten. A dispatch from Fleet Captain Pennock, dated Cairo, 19th, while confirming the defeat of the 8th—which he places at Mansfield, ten miles beyond Pleasant Hill—gives the assurance that on the 9th, the Rebels were "handsomely whipped." His authority is private letters from Grand Ecore on the 10th, and from Alexandria on the 12th. Letters from members of the Mercantile Battery, printed in The Chicago Journal, add that the enemy lost 2,000 prisoners and 20 cannon—which latter item seems pretty large, but may be correct. Credit for this success is given to the 19th Army Corps, under Gen. Andrew Jackson Smith, the captor of Fort De Russy. He is entitled, on both grounds, to have his name printed out in full.

It is too soon to say what effect these engagements will have on the progress of the Red River Expedition. If the Rebels were simply repulsed on the 9th, they may have fought another battle since, or may be blocking Gen. Banks's path without fighting. If they were defeated with the loss above stated, the battle may have been decisive, and the road to Shreveport opened. It is to be remembered, on the other hand, that an army like Gen. Banks's, which has fought two general actions in two successive days, of which one was a serious disaster, may be compelled to delay its advance in order to recover from its exhaustion. All we can say to-day is that the result is, on the whole, a favorable one for the National arms, and that further progress westward may be looked for in due time.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Special Dispatch to The N. Y. Tribune.

WASHINGTON, Wednesday, April 20, 1864.

CONFIRMATIONS BY THE SENATE.

The Senate confirmed to-day the appointments of Major Gen. Steadman, Brig. Gen. Bartlett of New York, Owen of Pennsylvania, Shaler of New York, and Maibach of Illinois, also, a large number of Surgeons, Paymasters, Quartermasters, and Commissioners.

THE HOUSE EVENING SESSION.

The House was not very well attended this evening, but a quorum was secured by counting the vote of the Speaker.

Mr. Kellogg of Michigan moved a reconsideration of the vote last night postponing the consideration of the Baritan Route bill a fortnight.

Objection was made, on the ground that members were absent who took interest in the question, and the motion was withdrawn.

The Senate bill directing the coinage of 1 and 2-cent bronze pieces was passed, although Thad. Stevens pleaded in behalf of the owner of the nickel mine in his district—the only source from which that metal is obtained.

CONSERVATISM.

A conservative lecture on politics in the Senate from Senator Trumbull, yesterday, and another to-day from Senator Doolittle, occasioned a great deal of anxiety and feeling among the men who endeavor to shoulder this War.

THE BARBARITY AT FORT PILLLOW.

The horrible affair at Fort Pillow has caused the deepest feeling in Congress, and made a demand that the House pass Senator Wilson's bill to equalize the pay of colored troops. The poor fellows get only \$10 a month, and out of this \$3 is reserved for clothing; and every one of these black patriots can get \$30 a month wages as laborers.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA EXPENSES.

As transmitted in the Senate to-day from the Interior Department, the total gross emoluments of Marshal Lamson the last calendar year was \$14,828 56. Allowed for deputies and clerks \$2,400 00. Maximum compensation allowed by law \$1,200 00. Balance due Government \$11,228 56.

Total emoluments of District Attorney Carrington \$2,501 00. Allowed for expenses \$1,000 00. Maximum compensation allowed by law \$1,000 00. Balance paid into Treasury \$500 00.

Total net emoluments of District Supreme Court Clerk \$1,000 00. Allowed for expenses \$500 00. Maximum compensation allowed by law \$500 00. Balance due Government from John A. Smith, Clerk Circuit and Criminal Courts \$725 00.

NAVY QUARTERMASTERS' CLERKS.

The House Navy Paymasters' Clerks bill was reported in Senate to-day amended by substitute as follows: Clerks to paymasters at Boston, New-York, Washington and Philadelphia stations, \$1,300; other stations, \$1,000. Clerks to inspectors in charge of provisions and clothing at Boston, New-York, and Philadelphia, \$1,300; other inspectors, \$1,000. Clerks to paymasters in receipt of pay at Boston and New-York, \$1,300; other receipting ships and in vessels of first rate, and at the Naval Academy, \$1,000.

THE WILKES COURT-MARTIAL.

Among the queer things uncovered by the Wilkes Court-Martial is the successful endeavor of Sanford, our Minister at Brussels, to have the war-frigate Vanderbilt used to collect a claim of his against a South American State of \$150,000. Commodore Wilkes says in his defense: "On the 15th of May I received a dispatch from the American Minister at Brussels, saying he had been advised by the Secretary of the Navy, in regard to a visit to Lagayra by one of my squadron, and adding, 'I hope that you or one of your ships will be able to see an early day to touch at Lagayra, or I fear that your intervention will come too late for any practical results.'"

In another place the Commodore says: "I proceeded to Caracas, put myself in communication with the proper authorities, accomplished the object of my visit by securing the payment of \$150,000 due to our citizens."

MR. STEBBINS'S SPEECH.

It is said that 60,000 copies of Mr. Stebbins's admirable speech on our power to sustain a war tax, and in favor of a prohibitory tariff, and, if necessary, an embargo, have already been subscribed for.

ENLISTMENT OF SLAVES IN MARYLAND.

Col. S. M. Bowdoin came here to-day, a shadow of his former self, worn nearly to death in the vast labor of collecting every male slave in Maryland of fighting age and qualifications. He has cleaned "My

Maryland" out, and knocked Bishop Hopkins's divine institution into limbo. He raised, in forty days, two full regiments of as fine black troops as can be found on the earth. He left no slaves fit for military duty in Maryland. He overran with his squads every county; they visited almost every farm.

The boats ran up every stream until masters were obliged to hide their slaves in the woods, conceal them in boats, and confine them in jails and houses. He opened the Jails even. He has not drawn one dollar from the Treasury, and his 3,000 black troops have not cost the Government five per cent of what the same number of white troops cost. But in doing this work he laid aside all style, all form and ceremony, went into negro churches nights, Sundays, whenever he could get an audience, and always addressed them in this, the great day of their salvation.

Bowman is a Western jury lawyer, and he pleaded this case with the negroes of Maryland almost individually. His hours of labor were from 8 a. m. to 11 p. m. He personally inspected every recruit, and mustered the whole in squads, and singly administered the oath, and always spoke to them noble words about their duties.

THE LOBBY.

The entire lobby, save that which drips in through the newspaper press, was cleared off from the floor of the house to-day, to the joy of members and the acceleration of the public business. This abatement of a national nuisance was preliminary to the unobstructed consideration of the tax bill. Bore, individual and associated, to lie down and whine off their taxes, are affectionately notified of the uselessness of their coming here. The bill is going through.

NAVY PAYMASTERS.

The Senate has amended the House Navy Paymaster's bill at Boston, Clerks to Paymasters, Inspector of Provisions, and Paymaster of receiving ship are to receive \$1,300.

MISSISSIPPI AND LAKE CANAL.

The Mississippi and Lake Canal bill will be brought up in the House to-morrow night.

A DISHONEST SCHEME.

A very dishonest scheme got partial success to-night in the vote of the House to give away a Government Reservation to a Roman Catholic House of Industry, an entire block of public land; a vote against the knowledge of the whole House, that commiserative capitalists in Philadelphia, New-York and Boston, were loyally trying to buy lots and build houses of the very first class for the Winter use of Members of Congress.

VOLUNTEER NAVAL OFFICERS.

The Senate bill providing for the confirmation by the Senate of volunteer naval officers was this evening returned to the House with the disagreement to the House amendment. The House resolved to adhere.

COLORED ENLISTMENTS.

The report of the massacre at Fort Pillow has given an impetus to colored enlistments, both here and in Baltimore. Servants are even leaving their positions, anxious to revenge the death of their brethren. A meeting was held in Georgetown for the same purpose.

PERSONAL.

Major Gen. Grant arrived in town this afternoon. Mrs. Grant is to return home soon.

GEN. BUTLER ON SWINDLING ENLISTMENTS.

Gen. Butler, in a General Order lately issued, says: "As many men seem to have enlisted with the view of obtaining the large bounties now being paid at the North, who had previously been discharged from the service of the United States and in the hope that they would immediately upon joining their commands be again discharged, it is hereby ordered that the names of all such men, as well as such who have not been in the service, but who obviously must have been aware of their disability before entering the service, be reported to these headquarters, in order that charges may be preferred against them for defrauding the Government."

To the Associated Press.

WASHINGTON, Wednesday, April 20, 1864.

MARINE ENGINES.

The House Committee on Naval Affairs have now under consideration the subject of marine engines and of a site for a Navy-Yard for the repair of iron-clads.

INDIAN DISTURBANCES IN ARIZONA.

Major Whipple, in an official dispatch, dated Fort Whipple, Arizona, says: "The people of this section are very much excited with regard to the Indian disturbances, so much so, that during a visit to the mines I noticed men working with arms beside them, and it is not considered safe to leave their dwelling without them. Unless immediate steps are taken to quell these Indians it will be of serious detriment to the Territory."

FROM ALBANY.

ALBANY, Wednesday, April 20, 1864.

The Legislature was not in session this evening, both Houses having adjourned to meet in joint assembly to receive, in behalf of the State, the battle flags of fifty-five New-York volunteer regiments, which have been deposited in the Bureau of Military Statistics as mementoes of the war.

The history of each flag was briefly told by Adj. Gen. Sprague, and they were received by Gov. Seymour for the State in a short speech. Speeches were also made by Speaker Alford and Gen. Crook.

Burning Indignation.

BALTIMORE, Wednesday, April 20, 1864. The Union men of East Baltimore expressed their indignation for Representative Harris to-night by burning him in effigy.

The Maryland Fair.

BALTIMORE, Wednesday, April 20, 1864. The Maryland Fair proves successful far beyond the most sanguine expectations. Notwithstanding the price of admission to-day has been double, no great has been the rush, that to-night crowds were unable to gain admittance.

A gentleman who visited the New-York Fair last week says that the Maryland Fair in many respects exceeds that of New-York, and that the Maryland Fair is a variety of goods and the rare taste of the decorations.

The Albany Bridge Bill Signed—Nominations by the Governor.

ALBANY, Wednesday, April 20, 1864. The Governor signed the Albany Bridge bill this morning. It is understood that the Governor sent to the Senate to-day the following nominations: For Canal Auditor, A. R. Parmelee of Franklin County, at present Canal Appraiser; for Canal Appraisers, Hiram Gardner of Lockport, late Canal Commissioner, in place of Mr. Parmelee; and Thomas B. Carroll, a reappointment.

PEOPLE'S COLLEGE.

This institution, situated at Havana, Schuylers County, N. Y., is now open to receive students, having seven of its Faculty on the ground, engaged in the impartation of instruction. Applications for admission to this College should be made to its President, who, on request, will forward circulars to persons desiring them, giving full information of the plan and purposes of the Institution, courses of study, &c.

The only objection it is proposed to make in present arrangements from the statements of the circular, is that a Cullinary Department will not now be provided for.

Young gentlemen can be accommodated with unfurnished rooms in the College free of rent, but their board they must obtain elsewhere.

The College has a Preparatory Department, to which pupils are admitted as to other academic and high schools; a Classical Department, a Scientific and a Provisional or Select Department. Board can be had in the near vicinity of the College, at prices varying from \$2 to \$3 per week. There will be a charge for contingent expenses to pupils, in the Preparatory Department of \$3 per term, and to students in the College Departments of \$7. Amos Brown, President.

Havana, April 10, 1864.

THE METROPOLITAN FAIR.

Immense Thrill Last Evening—Price of Admission Friday and Saturday, 25 Cents—Sale of Works of Art—Total Receipts, \$936,698.90.

There was a large falling off in the number of visitors at the Fair during yesterday morning and afternoon, but as soon as the gas was lighted, the crowd began to increase, and by 8 o'clock in the evening both the Fourteenth street and Union square Buildings were so thronged with people that at times it was impossible to move about from place to place with any degree of comfort.

The price of admission to the Fair to-day will be 25 cents as heretofore, but to-morrow and Saturday it will be reduced to 25 cents so as to afford even the poorest of our citizens to contribute in aid of the cause, and to witness the exhibition. In order to accommodate the immense crowd that is expected on the last two days, the holders of season tickets are requested to stay at home, or pay their way with everybody else.

The Public School children will continue to visit the Exhibition every morning before the buildings are thrown open to the public. Several auction sales were to have come off in the Fourteenth street building, but did not, much to the disappointment of Mrs. Toodler, on account of the non-attendance of the auctioneers.

Yesterday Mr. Wm. H. Lee withdrew from the Custom-House a magnificent collection of goods from Ireland, contributed by Richardson, Sons & Osden, through Messrs. Bullocke